



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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Record of a meeting of the **PEOPLE (ADULTS AND HEALTH) SCRUTINY PANEL**
held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, at 6.00pm on **Thursday 15**
January 2015

PRESENT: Mrs C J Cartwright – (Chairman, in the Chair)
Mr R Clifton
Mr G Conde
Mr J T Dale
Mr R J Gale
Mr J M Lammie
Miss G Waller

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr R Begy Portfolio Holder for Culture, Community
Safety and Housing
Mrs C Emmett Portfolio Holder for Health
Mrs L I Stephenson Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mr S Butterworth Interim Deputy Director for People
Ms D Greaves Finance Manager - Accounting
Dr T O'Neill Deputy Chief Executive and Director for
People
Miss M Gamston Corporate Support Officer

APOLOGIES: Mr D C Hollis, Mr Cross and Mr Woodcock

623. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Emmett declared that she undertakes work for the National Health Service and the Department of Health.

624. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

No petitions, deputations or questions had been received from Members of the public.

625. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS

No Questions with Notice had been received from Members.

SCRUTINY

626. BUDGET 2015-16, MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Report No. 14/2015 from the Director for Resources was received, the purpose of which was to present for public consultation the Council's budget proposal for 2015/16 and, to inform Members of the estimated position on the Collection Fund at 31 March 2015.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i) That the Better Care Fund, Health and Wellbeing, Better Care Together and the way older people were dealt with were the most important changes at current time;
- ii) That what happened with the Care Bill would impact on the Authority's budget over coming years with long term decisions to be made going forward;
- iii) That there had been investment ahead of the Care Act to enable the Authority to be able to discharge its duties under the Act;
- iv) That the budget reflected a new way of working going forward and was to be realigned along priorities;
- v) Cost code description: Public Health – key elements aligned with local authority priorities and reflected contracts supported;
- vi) Cost code description: Better Care Fund – contained the range of investments the Authority was making towards a new way of working. Members were advised that there were nine themes effectively moving intervention to an earlier stage;
- vii) Cost code description: Care Bill/Transformation Programme – investment through central government to develop. Officers informed the meeting that the Transformation Team needed to upgrade the ability to understand a customers' journey and that there had been investment in start-up costs for new policies;
- viii) Cost Code 4670: Voluntary Sector Grants – remained at the same level as the 2014/15 Budget;
- ix) Concern was expressed that Cost Code 4119: Healthwatch Rutland had increased but there had been no increase for Cost Code 4202: CAMHS. Members were advised that the increase related to the Independent Complaints Advocacy Service responsibility being transferred to the Authority rather than an increase in actual funding of Healthwatch. Members were also advised that there would be other investments in mental health in the budget;
- x) A breakdown of voluntary sector grants was requested including how the grants were used for and monitored. Officers agreed to provide this. It was also requested that consideration be given to voluntary sector targets and monitoring being a future agenda item for the People (Adults and Health) Scrutiny Panel;
- xi) Cost code description: Team Management – Members were advised that variations were largely due to movement under Transformation (interim/agency staff);
- xii) Cost Code 5612: Children and Adults Duty Social Care Management – Members were advised that following the integration of duty activity was now in one team;
- xiii) Cost Code 4442: Management of Community Support Services and Cost Code 4460: Day Opportunities Services related to staffing costs;
- xiv) Cost Code 4270: Safeguarding QA – was the funding for the Independent Reviewing Officer;

- xv) Cost Code 4259: Older People – low variance due to accurate profile of population and the fixed costs included within this cost code allowed for financial predictability. The budget covered an age range of 18 to 64 years for residential care, home care, direct payments and day care: assessments and management;
- xvi) Cost Code 4552: Meals Service – due to the decline in demand this service had been discontinued. In response to concerns raised regarding customers still requiring the provision of meals Members were advised that part of the assessment package included whether meals needed to be provided. In response to requests for information on the number of people having meals prepared as part of a care package the Portfolio Holder, Mrs Stephenson, undertook to respond by email to the Chairman, Mrs Cartwright;
- xvii) Cost Code 5719: Duty Desk for Referrals – Members advised that 4 or 5 members of staff per day covered duty;
- xviii) Cost Code 5851: Duty S17 – integrated adults and children;
- xix) That the Independent Living Fund was seen as a significant risk for the Authority as the amount of money coming from the National Health Service was unknown. Members were advised that across the country there has been a huge state of flux with these budgets;
- xx) That the increase in the threshold for claiming assistance with social care would take effect in 2016/17 with guidance to be issued;
- xxi) That Rutland worked closely with other local authorities through the East Midlands Councils and the Local Government Association in considering budgets and shared services;
- xxii) Cost Code 4579: Other Public Health Services – Members were advised that a breakdown of other services was available;
- xxiii) That Rutland through Better Care Together was working with Leicester and Peterborough hospitals on understanding their plans for the reduction in the number of beds.

Agreed:

1. That the Panel noted the content of Report No. 14/2015.
2. That officers would provide a breakdown of voluntary sector grants including how the grants were used for and monitored.
3. That information on the number of people having meals prepared as part of a care package would be provided. The Portfolio Holder, Mrs Stephenson, undertook to respond by email to the Chairman, Mrs Cartwright.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.24 pm

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